City of Newport Beach July 4th West Newport Safety Committee Minutes

DRAFT

Date: August 15, 2011

Time: 4:30 p.m.

Location: City Council Chambers

1. Welcome/Self Introductions

Council Member Rosansky welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited self introductions.

Committee Members present:

Council Member Steven Rosansky Craig Batley Mary Bryant

Guests present:

Sharon Boles

David Diamond

Marlyne Diamond

Wendy Frankel

Jill Golden

Cindy Koller

Gina Lesley

Jim Mosher

Dan Purcell

George Schroeder

Staff present:

Dave Kiff, City Manager

Jay Johnson, Chief of Police

Dale Johnson, Captain, Traffic Division Commander

Jeff Brouwer, Lieutenant

Laura Detweiler, Recreation and Senior Services Director

Matt Lohr, Recreation Manager

Mary Locey, Public Information Specialist

Shirley Oborny, Executive Assistant to the City Manager

2. Public Comment on Non-Agenda items

No comments were offered.

3. Approval of Minutes from May 4, 2011, meeting

The minutes were approved with a correction to the list of attendees present at the meeting.

4. July 4, 2011 Reviews

a) Public Safety

Captain Johnson gave a PowerPoint presentation. He talked about the Police Department's approach over the last few years and specifically this year:

- Family-friendly holiday in West Newport Beach;
- Police presence and expectations consistent with year-round presence and expectations;
- Gradually taking back time and distance;
- Increased citations;
- Educate and inform via newspaper and website;
- Enforce early and often;
- Loud and Unruly Gathering Ordinance (LUGO) to help change the culture;
- 200 more citations issued, 12 more arrests, 16 LUGO houses posted;
- CHP utilized more:
- Assigned command officers to specific areas enabling quicker decision-making.

Discussion ensued in more detail about specific areas or issues:

- Mr. Schroeder said he noticed about 25% less people this year;
- An attendee said she appreciated the more strict attitude the officers had with the crowds;
- An attendee said people were not jumping over the wall into the residential community behind Jack in the Box;
- An attendee said many residents on Seashore were not notified of what date the trash would be collected so it made a huge mess;
- River Ave. was less crowded but Seashore had more people;
- Captain Johnson said staff is considering how to lessen the number of parked bikes that block the sidewalks, boardwalk and the streets.

b) Loud & Unruly Gatherings Ordinance (LUGO)

- Captain Johnson said LUGO citations were issued in other parts of the City, not
 just in West Newport.
- Discussion ensued about the administration of the LUGOs.

c) Family Friendly Events

Council Member Rosansky said he was pleased to see 500 or more parade attendees. He received a lot of positive feedback.

Ms. Detweiler thanked Matt Lohr in helping to organize the parade and thanked the PD for helping with the street closure. She also congratulated and thanked the parade committee for its huge success on achieving the goal of providing something fun on that day.

Mr. Lohr talked about the planning process and parade itself:

- The budget for the parade was \$6,000 in City funds and the committee raised \$3,100;
- The committee will start planning for next year in the early fall;
- The Newport Elementary School PTA Board has committed to participate next year;
- An attendee suggested having more face painters because it was very popular;
- Sponsorships are needed and appreciated.

Mr. Schroeder suggested calling it "Family Friendly Fourth" instead of "The Fourth is for Families", so it's more inclusive.

Council Member Rosansky said he received a \$5,000 anonymous donation for next year's parade.

5. Suggestions for 2012

Captain Johnson started a discussion about keeping Balboa Blvd. open next year because the holiday will fall on a Wednesday. He said it would be a good time to try it. Mr. Schroeder felt the streets should remain closed until the crowds are lowered. Council Member Rosansky polled the attendees to see how many wanted the Peninsula kept open vs. closing it or at least a partial closing. Half wanted it open and half wanted it closed. Chief Johnson suggested trying it to see how it goes because it can always be closed if needed. The police enforcement will remain and he hopes eventually the culture will change.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:47 p.m.